

IPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

GOMA et al

Serial No. 10/519,560

Filed: December 28, 2004

For: THIN PLATE MANUFACTURING METHOD AND THIN
PLATE MANUFACTURING APPARATUS



Atty. Ref.: 914-200

Group: 2818

Examiner: Le, T.P.

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. | PTO-1449 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b) [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action] | <i>N/C</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. | Statement Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) [before Final Office Action or Allowance] | <i>N/C</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. | Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) [before Final Office Action or Allowance] | <i>\$180.00</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. | Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d) [before Issue Fee payment] | <i>\$180.00</i> |

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

| | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. | A list of documents on Form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document is enclosed herewith. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) | The EP 1 113 096 reference cited in the German Office Action was previously cited in the IPER and submitted with the IDS filed August 18, 2005. The DE reference (102 97 102), which is cited for the first time, is a counterpart of U.S. publication 2004/0238024 (which was also submitted with the IDS filed August 18, 2005). |

This paper is submitted in accordance with:

- 6. 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]
- 7. 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and
 - a) The required Statement made in item 9 below; or
 - b) The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 10 below.
- 8. 37 CFR §1.97(d): [before issue fee payment]; and
 - a) The fee (\$180.00) required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) is submitted herewith; and
 - b) The required Statement is stated in item 9 below.
- 9. Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)
 - a) The undersigned attorney of record hereby certifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (each item contained in this IDS was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred no more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS); or
 - b) No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 10. Please charge all deficiency fees associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees applicable to this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. An original and one (1) copy of this document are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

March 14, 2006

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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)